

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 11 to 13, 15, 16 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Edogaa et al. GB 2314292. Claims 14, 19 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Edogaa in view of Wagner, U.S. Patent No. 3,738,269. Claim 17 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Edogaa in view of Wingo, U.S. Patent No. 5,036,761.

Claim 11 has been amended. Claims 21 to 23 have been added, support being found at [0018] of the present specification for example.

Reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. 102(b) Rejections

Claims 11 to 13, 15, 16 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Edogaa et al. GB 2314292.

Edogaa et al. discloses a printing cylinder 1 having a central cylindrical chamber 8. Microactuators 7 are provided with actuating devices 9 controlled by an ECU. Print images are fed into a microcomputer 11, which activates the microactuators 7.

Claim 11 recites an inking roller for an inking unit of an offset printing press comprising:
 a plurality of zones arranged in a direction of an axis of rotation; and
 at least one ink reservoir in an interior of the inking roller,
 the at least one ink reservoir in each of the plurality of zones is connected to at least one ink exit in a circumferential surface of the inking roller;
 the inking roller having at least one pumping element assigned to each zone in the interior of the inking roller;
 the pumping element for conveying ink from the ink reservoir to the circumferential surface, the inking roller being an offset printing press inking roller.

Edgoaa et al. is a printing cylinder for creating images based on data, while the present invention related to an inking roller for an inking unit of an offset printing press. This preamble limitation is now recited positively in the body of claim 11. Inking rolls apply ink in zones to permit a plate cylinder to be inked.

Edgoaa et al. does not disclose an offset printing press inking roller. Nor, it is respectfully submitted, is the printing cylinder of Edgoaa et al. capable of functioning as an

offset printing press inking roller, as the cylinder of Edgoaa et al. creates ink dots, which in combination with a plate cylinder and blanket cylinder, would result in an incomplete dotted image on a paper web.

Withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 14, 19 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Edogaa in view of Wagner, U.S. Patent No. 3,738,269. Claim 17 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Edogaa in view of Wingo, U.S. Patent No. 5,036,761.

With respect to claim 14, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested in view of the amendment to claim 11. Moreover, the material in Wagner operates by capillary action that is not needed or necessary with any pump as claimed. The rejection appears to be based solely on hindsight reasoning, and it is not believed or understood how the material of Wagner would distribute ink more evenly as asserted.

With respect to claims 19 and 20, it is respectfully submitted that one of skill in the art would not have used the imaging cylinder of Edgoaa et al. as an inking roller in an offset printing press, as the cylinder of Edgoaa et al. is an imaging cylinder. In fact, Edgoaa et al. does not want or require any inking roller for a plate cylinder, as it providing inking interiorly.

With respect to claim 17, it is respectfully submitted that Wingo discloses a roller for feeding water, and not an inking roller as asserted. Withdrawal of the rejection to claim 17 for this reason as well is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

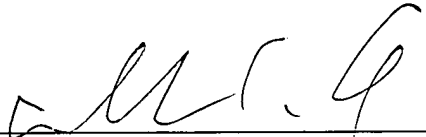
It is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance and Applicant respectfully requests such action.

Applicant believes that no fees are due as a result of this amendment. In the event of a fee discrepancy, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0552.

Respectfully submitted,

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